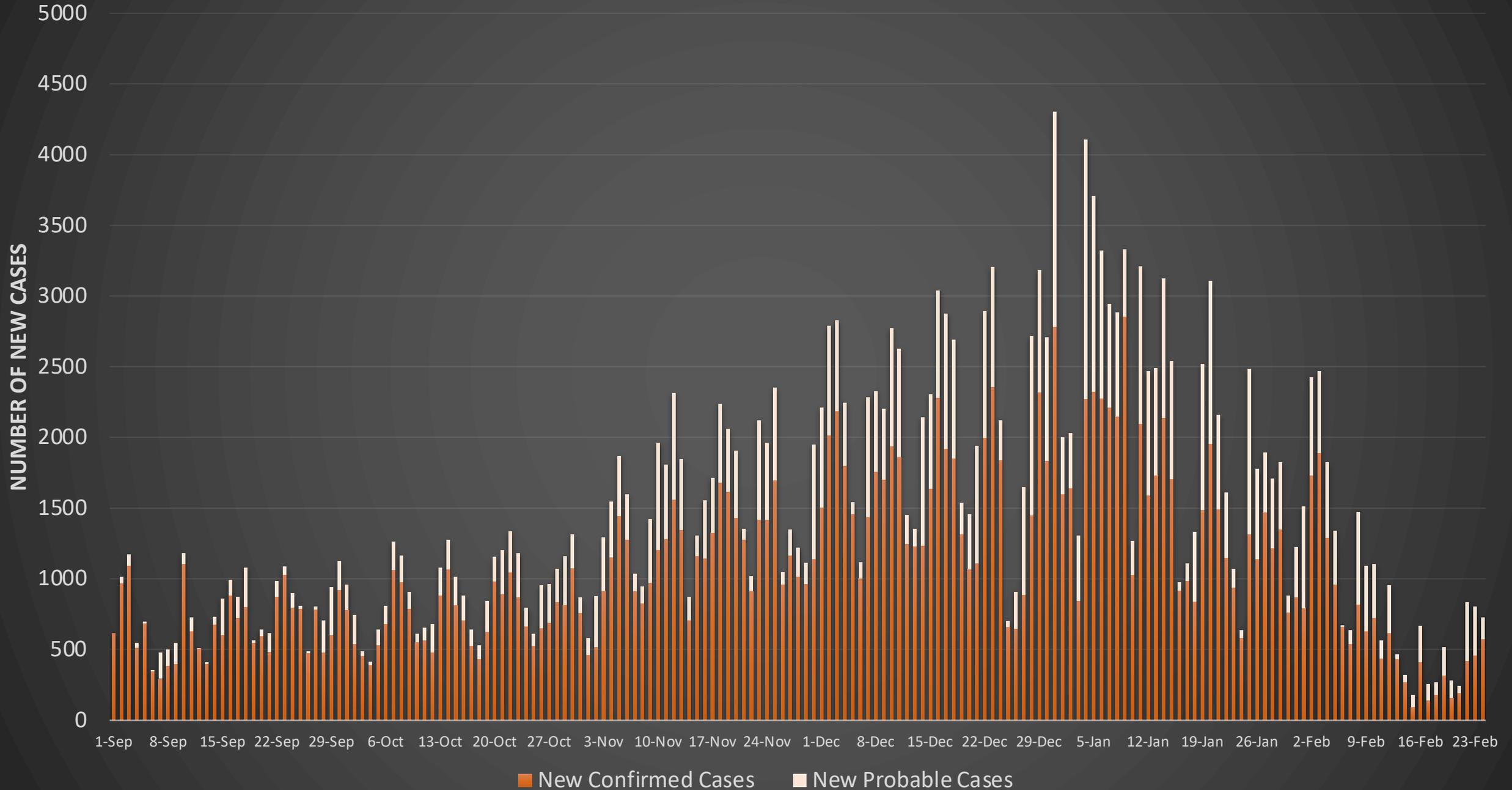


Number of New COVID-19 Cases in Arkansas, By Case Type



Mask Mandate Renewal Evaluation

- 1) A value below 10% combined PCR and antigen positivity rate (7-day rolling average) with at least 7500 specimens tested on average daily would be actionable.
- 2) If testing is below 7500 average specimens daily, then the number of hospitalized patients would serve as the indicator for action. Fewer than 750 patients hospitalized state-wide for COVID-19 would be the trigger.

Directive vs. Guidance

A **Directive**, based on scientific data and a rational basis, is a mandate like an order with a potential penalty after due process.

A **Guidance**, based on scientific data, is a strong recommendation based on medical advice.

Impact on School Districts

- Most districts have adopted local board policies to require the mask mandate and social distancing. This can remain in place at the discretion of the local boards.
- The guidance on capacity and social distancing will allow for proms, athletic events, graduation, and other extracurricular events to be held. It will negate the assurance documents districts filed with AAA and ADH.
- Quarantine guidance will not change.
- Identification of close contacts will stay in place.